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1961 Crop Prospects Continue to Improve

October weather permitted late growing crops such as corn and sorghums to reach full maturity and add to earlier prospects. According to the Crop Reporting Board, offsetting declines in other crops held the all-crop production index at the same level as a month earlier. At 117 the index is 4 points below the high of 121 recorded in 1960. The yield index, representing a composite of 28 leading crops, advanced 1 point during October to 146. This compares to the previous record of 143 for the crop seasons of 1958 and 1960.

Feed Grain Estimate Under 1960 Total

Delayed freezing weather in the Corn Belt allowed late growing crops of corn and sorghums to reach full maturity and nudge the output of feed grains above last month's estimate. Total tonnage of the four feed grains is now estimated at 138 million tons, up fractionally from last month but 11 percent under the 1960 total. The November 1 indicated corn yield of 60.9 bushels per acre far surpasses last year's previous record of 54.5 bushels.

Pastures Well Above Average

On November 1 reported pasture condition for the Nation averaged 80 percent of normal, 2 percent above last year and 8 percent above average. Pastures were generally better than last year in the North Central region and declined more than usual during October in the North Atlantic States. Dry weather caused sharp deterioration in the South Atlantic and East South Central areas but Oklahoma and Texas received rainfall that held pastures at the good to excellent level.

Hay and Forage Better Than in Last Two Winters

The supply of hay and forage available for wintering livestock, as rated by crop reporters on November 1, averaged a little better than the previous two years but under the high levels of 1957 and 1958. Supplies were above last year in all regions except the North Central States.

Cotton Prospects Up in November

The November 1 forecast of 14,538,000 bales is up 204,000 bales from a month ago and compares with 14,272,000 bales in 1960 and the 1950-59 average of 13,553,000 bales. The indicated yield per acre of 446 pounds is 6 pounds above the forecast of a month ago and compares with 446 pounds in 1960 and 461 pounds in 1959.

Largest Soybean Crop

Harvest of the Nation's largest soybean crop is estimated at 701 million bushels. This is down 9 million bushels, or 1.4 percent, from the October 1 estimate, but is 25 percent above last year, nearly 80 percent above average, and 20 percent above the previous peak in 1958. The large production is the result of the highest acreage of record and a record-high yield of 25.9 bushels per acre.

Fall Vegetables Down From 1961 Level

Based on November 1 estimates, production of fall vegetables is expected to be 5 percent below last year and 1 percent below average. Snap beans, sweet corn, and eggplant are the only crops with expected production above 1960. Vegetables with significantly less production than last year are cauliflower, celery, green peppers, and broccoli.

Prices of Farm Products

Commodity	Average Prices received by farmers		Effective parity prices
	Sept. 15 1961	Oct. 15 1961	Based on data for Oct., 1961
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.)..... ct.	32.76	33.89	38.83
Wheat (bu.)..... dol.	1.86	1.87	2.38
Rice (100 lb.)..... dol.	4.91	5.19	6.02
Corn (bu.)..... dol.	1.04	1.02	1.62
Peanuts (lb.)..... ct.	10.7	10.8	13.0
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Milkfat in cream (lb.)..... ct.	60.6	60.9	74.9
Milk, wholesale (100 lb.)..... dol.	4.38	¹ 4.51	5.12
Wool (lb.)..... ct.	² 41.0	² 40.6	74.9
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.)..... dol.	.968	.986	1.25
Cottonseed (ton)..... dol.	47.50	51.50	62.60
Flaxseed (bu.)..... dol.	3.35	3.23	3.79
Hay, baled (ton)..... dol.	19.70	20.20	25.30
Oats (bu.)..... dol.	.640	.637	.840
Potatoes (cwt.)..... dol.	1.50	1.28	2.45
Rye (bu.)..... dol.	1.02	1.04	1.47
Sorghum, grain (100 lb.)..... dol.	1.65	1.61	2.47
Soybeans (bu.)..... dol.	2.24	2.20	2.89
Sweetpotatoes (cwt.)..... dol.	3.96	3.73	5.63
Oranges, on tree (box)..... dol.	3.16	2.58	2.40
Apples, for fresh use (bu.)..... dol.	2.43	2.19	2.69
Beef cattle (100 lb.)..... dol.	20.20	20.10	23.70
Calves (100 lb.)..... dol.	23.40	23.60	26.20
Hogs (100 lb.)..... dol.	17.50	16.40	21.30
Lambs (100 lb.)..... dol.	15.60	15.50	25.20
Chickens, all (lb.)..... ct.	11.2	11.2	25.1
Eggs (dozen)..... ct.	35.4	37.0	47.0

¹ Preliminary

² Does not include incentive payment.

Vegetables for Processing Up This Year

This year's production of nine principal crops grown for commercial processing totals 7,860,380 tons, according to November 1 estimates of the Crop Reporting Board. This is 10 percent more than the 7,139,440 tons of these same crops produced last year and 20 percent more than the 1950-59 average. Indicated 1961 production of each of the nine crops exceeds that of last year.

Fall Potato Production Looks High

Fall potato production is estimated at 198,364,000 hundredweight, 2 percent above the October 1 estimate. A crop of this size is 13 percent above 1960 production and 27 percent above the 1950-59 average. An increase in the production estimate over last month was made in all regions, although most of the advance was in the Eastern and Central areas.

Statistical Series of Interest to Agriculture

Item	1960		1961		
	Oct.	Year	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
Nonfarm employment, (civilian) ¹	61.2	61.0	62.2	61.4	61.9
Farm employment.....	8.3	7.1	8.3	8.8	8.1
Family.....	6.0	5.2	5.6	6.0	5.7
Hired.....	2.3	1.9	2.8	2.8	2.4
Index numbers (1947-49 = 100)					
Industrial production ²	161	164	171	169	n. a.
Total personal income payments ³	200	198	206	207	--
Weekly factory earnings ⁴	170	170	172	172	n. a.
Average earnings of factory workers, per worker ⁴	173	172	177	175	n. a.
Wholesale prices, all commodities ⁴	120	120	119	119	n. a.
Farm commodities.....	90	89	89	87	n. a.
Food, processed.....	109	108	108	108	n. a.
Consumer price index ⁴	127	126	128	128	--
Food.....	121	120	121	121	--
Index numbers (1910-14 = 100)					
Prices received by farmers.....	241	238	241	242	240
Crops.....	222	221	229	229	226
Food grains.....	200	203	209	214	217
Feed grains and hay.....	147	151	154	156	154
Cotton.....	267	254	276	277	286
Tobacco.....	513	500	523	542	537
Oil bearing crops.....	209	214	259	242	242
Fruit.....	273	236	244	257	228
Commercial Vegetables.....	212	227	214	198	195
Livestock and products.....	257	253	251	252	252
Meat animals.....	286	296	302	303	297
Dairy products.....	277	259	257	266	274
Poultry and eggs.....	176	160	142	138	141
Prices paid by farmers.....					
All commodities.....	273	275	276	276	276
Used in living.....	290	290	290	291	291
Used in production.....	262	265	265	266	265
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index).....	296	299	301	301	301
Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted. Parity ratio (prices received to parity index).....	613	631	648	648	635
	81	80	80	80	80

¹ Bureau of the Census.

² Federal Reserve Board.

³ Department of Commerce.

⁴ Bureau of Labor Statistics--any figures not available at press time omitted.

Sweetpotato Crop 3 Percent Under '60

Estimated sweetpotato production, at 15,198,000 hundredweight, is up slightly from a month ago but is 3 percent less than the 1960 crops and 20 percent less than the ten-year average.

Tobacco Prospects Rise

At 2,008 million pounds, estimated production of all types of tobacco as of November 1 is about 3 million pounds above the forecast a month earlier. Small increases in the outlook for burley, dark fired type 22, and Southern Maryland more than offset fractional decreases in the estimates for flue-cured type 12 and Connecticut Valley binder. Total poundage expected from the current crop is the largest since 1956, 3 percent above production last year, but 2 percent below the 1950-59 average.

For all tobacco, a combined average yield of 1,720 pounds per acre is indicated--the highest of record. This compares with a 1,703-pound yield in 1960, the previous high.

Fruit Output Exceeds Last Year

Total tonnage of 1961 crop noncitrus fruits is expected to be 8 percent greater than last year and 9 percent above average. Total production is off slightly from the estimate of a month ago because of a decline in prospects for grapes principally in California and New York, and cranberries in Massachusetts. These decreases more than offset an increase in apple prospects.

Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	Unit	Jan.-Sept. 1960	Jan.-Sept. 1961
Dairy Production			
Milk.....	Bil. lb.	¹ 104.5	¹ 106.0
Evaporated whole milk.....	Mil. lb.	1,738.2	1,740.8
Dry nonfat milk solids.....			
(for human food).....	Mil. lb.	1,470.0	1,577.6
Butter, creamery.....	Mil. lb.	1,076.7	1,148.9
Cheese, American.....	Mil. lb.	783.5	911.5
Ice cream.....	Mil. gal.	556.0	552.3
Poultry Production			
Eggs.....	Billions	¹ 51.6	¹ 51.2
Federally inspected slaughter: ²			
Chickens.....	Mil. lb.	3,045.4	3,586.0
Turkeys.....	Mil. lb.	449.7	620.4
Poultry canned and used in other processed foods.....	Mil. lb.	263.5	435.0
Liquid egg.....	Mil. lb.	537.8	538.7
Dried egg (egg solids).....	Mil. lb.	40.6	45.6
Frozen egg.....	Mil. lb.	343.2	318.1
Meat Production ³ (dressed weight)			
Beef.....	Mil. lb.	10,772	11,178
Veal.....	Mil. lb.	757	715
Pork.....	Mil. lb.	8,065	7,747
Lamb and mutton.....	Mil. lb.	559	615
Total red meat.....	Mil. lb.	20,153	20,255

¹ January - October.

² Ready-to-cook.

³ Commercial; excludes farm slaughter.

Other Crops November 1 Estimates

DRY BEANS: Production of dry beans is estimated at 19,579,000 bags (100 pounds cleaned basis). This is 9 percent above last year's production and 17 percent above the 10-year average.

RICE: Production of rice is estimated at 54.3 million bags (100 pounds equivalent), slightly below the October 1 forecast and last year but nearly a tenth larger than average.

SUGAR BEETS: Production of sugar beets is now estimated at 18,280,000 tons, down 500,000 tons from the October 1 estimate. This production is 7 percent above the 1959 record of 17,015,000 tons.

SUGARCANE FOR SUGAR AND SEED: Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in Continental United States is indicated at 9,302,000 tons, 20 percent above last year.

November 1 Fruit Estimates

APPLES: The commercial apple crop is now estimated at 126,840,000 bushels, up about one percent from the October 1 forecast. At this level, production is 17 percent above last year and 13 percent above average.

PEARS: The 1961 pear crop in the United States is estimated at 26,851,000 bushels, up very slightly from last month and 5 percent higher than the 1960 production, but 8 percent below the 10-year average.

GRAPES: The 1961 grape crop is now estimated at 3,134,330 tons, down 3 percent from last month's forecast. At this level, production is 5 percent above last year's crop and 7 percent above the average.

PRUNES: The 1961 production of dried prunes in California and Oregon is forecast at 140,750 tons (dried basis). A small decrease from last year in California was more than offset by sharply increased production in Oregon. The overall increase in the crop is 1 percent. However, the current crop is 8 percent below the 10-year average.

CRANBERRIES: The 1961 cranberry crop, at 1,210,000 barrels, is down slightly from last month and 10 percent below last year. The current forecast is 16 percent above the 10-year average.

Reports and publications issued regularly by USDA's Economic Research Service and Statistical Reporting Service are listed in a booklet entitled *Agricultural Economics, Checklist of Reports*. If you want a free copy, address Agricultural Economics, Division of Information, USDA, Washington 25, D. C.

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Farm-Retail Spread and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-food Products

Year and month	Retail cost ¹	Farm value ²	Farm-retail spread	Farmer's share
1960 average.....	\$1,052	\$408	\$644	39%
1960 September.....	1,055	402	653	38%
1961 August.....	1,060	403	657	38%
1961 September.....	1,058	402	656	38%

¹ Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per family in 1952 by urban wage-earner and clerical-worker families calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

² Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

Record Edible Nut Production

Production of edible nuts is estimated at a record high with the total tonnage of almonds, filberts, pecans, and walnuts 17 percent above last year (the previous high) and 34 percent above average. Pecans and almonds account for most of the increased tonnage with pecans expected to be the largest crop on record and almonds the second largest.

Cash Receipts from Farm Marketings, by States, August 1961¹

State	Livestock and Products	Crops	Total
	1,000 Dollars	1,000 Dollars	1,000 Dollars
Maine	9,516	2,753	12,269
New Hampshire.....	3,572	1,043	4,615
Vermont	8,929	547	9,476
Massachusetts	7,604	6,899	14,503
Rhode Island	1,316	969	2,285
Connecticut	7,813	4,438	12,251
New York	50,851	48,743	99,594
New Jersey.....	13,778	18,633	32,411
Pennsylvania.....	48,277	24,506	72,783
Ohio	52,015	48,392	100,407
Indiana	64,020	34,809	98,829
Illinois	90,912	85,770	176,682
Michigan	34,273	45,151	79,424
Wisconsin	74,754	19,946	94,700
Minnesota	79,923	36,655	116,578
Iowa	164,499	18,330	182,829
Missouri	65,472	32,380	97,852
North Dakota	16,129	39,919	56,048
South Dakota.....	35,787	25,444	61,231
Nebraska.....	61,897	31,007	92,904
Kansas	52,112	36,976	89,088
Delaware	5,572	3,558	9,130
Maryland	14,723	7,054	21,777
Virginia	23,915	31,383	55,298
West Virginia	8,911	2,928	11,839
North Carolina	27,214	276,675	303,889
South Carolina.....	10,161	45,355	55,516
Georgia	34,283	75,218	109,501
Florida.....	18,572	10,617	29,189
Kentucky	28,384	5,011	33,395
Tennessee	27,181	9,329	36,510
Alabama	25,291	33,087	58,378
Mississippi.....	23,780	23,188	46,968
Arkansas	24,124	34,267	58,391
Louisiana	12,369	28,945	41,314
Oklahoma	34,734	13,140	47,874
Texas	90,374	128,638	219,012
Montana	32,904	21,630	54,534
Idaho	18,017	31,708	49,725
Wyoming	24,182	4,435	28,617
Colorado	30,200	27,846	58,046
New Mexico	12,922	5,954	18,876
Arizona	12,466	10,029	22,495
Utah	11,912	4,779	16,691
Nevada.....	5,409	480	5,889
Washington	18,418	53,679	72,097
Oregon	19,351	36,926	56,277
California	111,911	180,050	291,961
United States	1,650,729	1,669,219	3,319,948
U. S. Jan.-Sept.	14,121,336	9,368,234	23,489,570
Same period, year ago	13,791,121	9,198,062	22,989,183

¹All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

Cash Receipts From Farming and Index of Volume of Farm Marketings, United States¹

Item	September 1961	October 1961
	<i>Mil. dol.</i>	<i>Mil. dol.</i>
Total marketings and CCC loans ²	3,320	4,200
Livestock and products	1,651	1,900
Meat animals	953	
Dairy products	389	
Poultry and eggs	273	
Other	36	
Crops	1,669	2,300
Food grains	277	
Feed crops	174	
Cotton (lint and seed)	198	
Oil-bearing crops	194	
Tobacco	302	
Vegetables	237	
Fruits and tree nuts	166	
Other	121	
Government payments	106	
Grand total	3,426	
	1947-49 = 100	
VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS:		
All commodities	151	197
Livestock and products	146	167
Crops	159	238

¹ For comparison with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation. ² Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month.



Growth Through Agricultural Progress

Farm production: Index numbers of total farm output, gross production of livestock and crops, and related indexes, United States¹ (1947-49 = 100)

Item	1958-60	1960	Indicated 1961 ²
Farm output	125	127	127
All livestock and livestock products ³	126	126	131
Meat animals.....	126	125	130
Dairy products	110	110	112
Poultry and eggs	149	151	163
All crops ⁴	119	121	117
Feed grains.....	139	142	127
Hay and forage	119	119	113
Food grains	107	110	100
Vegetables	107	107	112
Sugar crops	129	130	147
Cotton	94	100	102
Tobacco	90	96	99
Oil crops	170	171	201
Cropland used	94	94	89
Crop production per acre ⁵	126	129	131
Animal units of breeding livestock ⁶	99	97	98
Livestock production per breeding unit ⁶ ...	127	130	134

Prepared jointly by Economic Research Service and Statistical Reporting Service.

¹ For historical data and explanation of indexes, see, "Changes in Farm Production and Efficiency," USDA Statistical Bulletin No. 233.

Indications for 1961 based on November 1961 "Crop Production" report and other releases of the Crop Reporting Board, SRS.

³ Gross livestock production includes minor livestock products not included in the separate groups shown. It cannot be added to gross crop production to compute farm output.

⁴ Gross crop production includes fruits and nuts and some miscellaneous crops not in the separate groups shown. It cannot be added to gross livestock production to compute farm output.

⁵ Index of crop production per acre is a ratio of total crop production to total land used for crops. It differs from the SRS index of yields per harvested acre of 28 crops.

⁶ Animal units and production exclude horses and mules.

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